

The New Art of Gardening :

OR, THE

Seasons and Manner of Ordering and raising the most common and best useful Plants, Roots and Herbs, that are sown or propagated in the Kitchen Garden.

Of Asparagus.



THE Dutch Asparagus. In January or February sow your Seed pretty thin in a light mould, and clap it down with the back of your Spade ; weed your Beds constantly, and dress them in September about three or four fingers thick with long old Horse-dung. If the Weather be open, in the beginning of March uncover your Beds, and dress them again two fingers thick with rich Mould ; dress them thus again the next Year, and in March come two Years make your Beds to transplant them in, three or four foot over, and a foot and half in depth under ground, which fill with rotten Dung of any sort, also with Horns and Hoofs of dead Beasts with a little Earth mingled, then cover your Bed half a foot thick above ground with good, old, rich Mould, taken out of Melon or Cucumber-bed ; then take up your young Plants carefully, and trim them three or four inches short, set them about three inches in depth, and spread their Roots most conveniently to extend themselves, or you may cover them three inches thick with the Mould, setting them always at sixteen or eighteen inches distance in a Quincunical order, leaving two foot distance between each bed, and weeding them constantly. About three, four, or if you would have them very large, five years after cut them carefully at the Roots, least you injure the next success-ful. At Midsummer every Year let them run to seed, and the latter end of November cut off their Stalks close to the ground, then dress your Beds with long old Horse-dung about four or five inches thick, and if the Weather be open, in the beginning of March take off their Dung, and cover them again about two fingers thick with rich Mould, which Dressings you must yearly continue, and your Asparagus will last eighteen or twenty years.

Of *Artichoakes*.

THE *Globe-Artichoake*. In the middle of March begin to dress your old *Artichoaks*, by taking away the last years Dung or Earth from their Roots, allowing three several *Days*, four days between each for the doing of it, that the coldness of the Weather may not surprize them, then take off the young Slips from the old shoots with what Root you can, and not destroy the old one, leaving those of the old Bearers a little asunder one from another, and then lay new Mould to the old Roots ; plant your Slips above 4 or 5 foot distance in a rich and deep Soil, not very dry, being trenched two foot deep, mixed very well with good old rotten Dung, and made into Beds of what form you please, then water them with Dung-water till they are well rooted, and some of them will yield their Heads in *Autumn* following, and so will your Standers if you cut them early, and water them as before, *The latter end of November every year* earth up your *Choakes*, and almost cover them with old long Dung, &c. or only cut off their Leaves, and cover them with Earth: About the middle of March following begin to uncover them as before, which Dressings if you yearly continue, your *Artichoakes* will last good above 7 years.

Of *Turnips*.

THE *Round Turnip*. Sow them in *April* to have them in the Summer, and at *Mid-summer* to have them in the Winter, but if great Drowth, Birds, or Flies devour your Seed, sow them again the latter end of *July*, and they will live over the Winter ; their young Tops are also good to boil in the Spring : Sow *Turnips* thin, or thin them with an Hawe, and transplant them ten or twelve inches asunder ; to have them large sow them almost on the surface of the Earth, and in wet years tread down their tops ; they will grow in the meanest Land in its first Tilt better than in the fattest, and are fairer in only dripping years ; before the Frosts come take them up, cut off their tops, lay them in heaps in some cool place, and cover them with Sand, to keep all the Winter.

Of *Carrots*.

THE *Red Carrot*. In *February* or *March* when the Weather is dry, sow them in a sandy light ground, a little thicker than you sow *Turnips*, usually between Beans to have them late, if their roots come at any Dung trenched in that year, is the reason they grow forked ;

ked ; to have them large, tread down their tops, and to keep them all Winter for use, lay them in heaps as you do Turnips ; to have them in the Spring, sow them in *August*, and cover them with Peas-hawme, &c. to live over the Winter.

Of Parsnips.

Sow them *when you sow Carrots*, only not so thick, but in a richer and as light a Soil ; to have them large, tread down their tops, and cover them with Straw, &c. to live over the Winter.

Of Radishes and Horse-radish.

Sow them *all the Year*, those in the Winter, or to have them early in the Spring in Hot-beds ; they delight in a light, rich or brackish Soil, and must have depth of Earth ; water them constantly, their young tops are also good to boil. The *Horse-radish* is sown after the same manner, and is also increased by Plants.

Of Onions.

THE *Red Spanish* is Tart, the *White Spanish* Mild, the *Biscay* and *St. Omers* Onions are large ; to have them small, sow them thick *any time of the Year*, to have them in the Spring, sow them in *Autumn*, and cover them with Straw, &c. to live over the Winter ; to have them large, sow them thin *the latter end of February* in the wain of the Moon, but if they come up too thick, transplant them and cover them as before ; Onions delight in good Land, well tempered, and freed from Weeds, having first trod or beaten your Bed, cover your Seed a Finger thick with rich Earth, being shifted, and when they run into Stalk, break down their Stalks to make them Head the better, in *August* gather them, and dry them in the Sun to keep.

Of Garden Beans.

THE *Sandwich Bean*. Set them in November, or at any time after till May, or rather having steeped them two or three days in Water, set them *the latter end of February* to preserve them from Frost and Vermin ; set them always in the wain of the Moon from North to South in double Ranges, each single Range to be three or four Inches, and each double Range to be three or four Foot a sunder ; when they have done blossoming, to have them large, cut off their
tops

rops, being good to boil, and when they are ripe, gather them with a Knife: To have a second crop of Beans in *Autumn*, when they are first ripe, cut off their Stalks near the Ground, and water them often,

Of French or Kidney Beans.

THe *small white Kidney Bean*, in the beginning of May, plant them about a Foot a sunder and two Fingers deep, in a warm, light, and fertile Ground, being well stirred.

Of Garden and Field-peas.

THe *Hotspur* is the earliest and quickest of growth, *the Sugar Pea* the sweetest, *the great Egg Pea* the most proper to a Garden, and the large white and green Rouncivalls the most common. Sow *the Hotspur* in September to have them in May, or rather to preserve them from Frost and Vermin; sow them *the latter end* of February, keeping them warm all Winter; or sow them *in the middle* of May, to have them in their Season; in six weeks time you may gather them: Plant *the large Sugar Pea* in April, to have them at Mid-Summer, and secure them from Birds; the Rouncivalls, &c. set or sow them *the latter end* of February after the hardest weather is over, to have them at Mid-Summer; or sow them a little before Mid-Summer to have them in September, or sow them *the latter end* of September, and keep them warm all winter to have them in the Spring: Sow all Peas thin about a foot and a half or two foot a sunder, and either in single or double Rows ranging from *East* to *West*, rigging your Lands towards the *North*, that your Lands and Furrows may decline towards the *South*, and when they are about a Hands breadth in height, Earth them up at the Root, and keep them hawed from Weeds, which very much accelerates their Growth; they delight in a warm light Soil, if it be rich, the Peas are the fairer, if poor, the more early, and spend better when dry.

Of Cabbages, Caulwerts, Sprouts and Cauly-Flowers.

THe Dutch and Russia Cabbages are the earliest, *the large sided and Savoy Cabbages* are accounted the best, and *the large white headed Cabbage* is the largest. Sow your seed in the Hot-bed *the latter end* of August, or at any time between Mid-Summer and Michaelmas; when they have a leaf three fingers broad, plant them out close one by another into a rich Mould or old Hot-bed, and keep them warm under

under a Glafs-frame to live over the Winter; in *March following*, plant them out again where they are to grow, water them well at first, and now and then afterwards, if the Season be dry; these are called Leger plants, and are always the fairest. Before the hard Frost comes, take up your Cabbages, hang them up by the Roots a Fortnight, and when they have drained, lay them in a Celler, and they will keep a long time; to keep them all Winter, plant them out deep in the Ground close one by another, and cover them with Straw, &c. Cabbages are also raised in the Spring after the manner of Cauly-Flowers, the *Russia Cabbage* sowed and planted in the Spring, will head in seven weeks time; the *large sided Cabbage* is not sown till *May*, and is planted out in *July*.

Caulworts are raised from Cabbage-seeds, being sown the latter end of *March*, and transplanted as before at a foot distance where they are to grow, all the Summer they are an excellent Food, and in dripping Years, or being well watered they will head, and be Cabbage towards the latter end of the Season.

Sprouts are of those stalks that either Cabbages or Cauly-flowers are cut off, and being planted out in *Autumn* in any corner of your Garden, will sprout forth afresh as often as they are gathered, and serve to boil when other Greens are scarce.

Cauly-flowers are sowed the latter end of *August* in the *Hot-bed*, and when they have a Leaf three fingers broad plant them out close one by another, in a rich Mould or old *Hot-bed*, and keep them warm under a Glafs frame to live over the Winter; in *March following* plant them out again where they are to grow, and water them constantly with Dung-water to have them fair and large; plant them always deep to take the better root, strew their Roots with Tobacco-dust to secure them from Worms and Snails, and cover their flowers with their own leaves in the heat of the day, and to preserve them from Rain; to have flowers within a month after these with larger plants, sow your seed in *February* in the *Hot-bed*, and when they are fit, plant them out into a rich Mould, and secure them as before. In the beginning of *April* plant them out to grow, and water them as before; to have them come some of them under other of them, take up such Plants, replant them two, three or four several times, in every fortnight or three weeks, according to your number of Plants.

Of Melons and Cucumbers.

IN *February* at the Full of the Moon, having steeped your Seeds in Milk four and twenty hours, set or sow them in the Hot-bed two or three in a hole about an Inch deep, then cover your Bed with straw under the Frame to keep it very warm, and when the Seed is come up cover your Seedlings with small Glasses, leaving room near the ground for a little air. *Towards the latter end of April in an Evening after a fair day*, plant them out where they are to grow in a rich and light Mould, water them well, and preserve them three or four Days from the Sun and Cold, and afterwards from the Cold only, or when the Sun is violently hot; when your Plants are large cover them with large Glasses, giving them a little air in the day time, and keeping them close at night: In very hot and dry weather, water them half a foot's distance from the root, and take care not to wet their leaves, lest the Sun wither them: To hasten them in their growth cover your Bed two or three Inches thick with sand, or only lay a Tile under each Melon, and when they are as big as Tennis-balls, to make them large, nip off the smaller shoots that exhaust their Sap, and nip them off also at a Joint some distance beyond their bearing Branches.

Cucumbers are raised after the same manner, only they are to be more frequently watered, and are a more hardy Plant.

Of Sallad-Herbs.

THe *Roman Cabbage-lettice*. Sow in *February, March or April*; where they grow too thick, thin them, and keep them warm; or sow them a Fortnight after *Bartholomew-tide*, transplant them and keep them warm all winter; in the *Spring* when they are full grown, blanch them, by binding them up with straw in a dry day, or if they are well cabbaged, only cover them with earthen Pots, which also cover with new made long Dung, by keeping them hot to change them white.

Sow *Purslaine* very thin either in the Hot-bed, or in *April*, in any rich Soil finely dressed, then clap over your Bed with the back of your spade, and water it well, in which it delights; if it comes up too thick, transplant it.

Sow *Corn-Sallad, Garden-creffes, Clary, Fennel, Mustard-seed and Marigol's, &c.* in *March or April*.

Strawberries are best raised of Plants, and are to be strung and new planted once in two three years in a Bed newly broken, or at least where

where they have never grown before, they delight in a warm sandy soil, and flourish best in the shade.

Sow *Spinage* in September to have it early in the Spring, in February to have it all the summer.

Sorrel is best raised of Plants the latter end of March, and set them not too near.

Sow *Chervil* either in the Hot-bed to have it early, or in March, or any time afterwards to have it young and often.

Sow *Sellery* in May to live over the Winter, when they are pretty big trim their tops and transplant them; in August plant them out again, and set them deep with a setting-stick, leaving the hole open at top, and water them once in two days with Dung-water till they come forward; they are also sowed in March and transplanted, to have them young in the Summer.

Of Sweet-Herbs.

Plant the slips of Red Sage the latter end of April.

Sow the fine Sweet-Marjoram in May. The *Vulgar-sweet* and *Pet-marjoram* are raised from slips planted the latter end of April.

The *Summer-Savoury* is an hardy seed, and is usually sowed amongst Onions to give them a flavour. The *Winter-Savoury* is also raised of Seeds, or from Onions sowed or planted the latter end of April.

The Red Garden-Mint, the mastic Thyme, Hyssop, Penny-royal, Tansey, Balme, Lavender, Camomile and Rosemary, &c. are also sowed the latter end of April: Mint is also raised in May from cuttings, Thyme, Lavender and Rosemary from slips taken off in May or June, and when you set them, water them, and shade them from the Sun 'till they have taken root.

To make an Hot-bed, &c.

Choose a warm place, and enclose it with a Pale or Hedge of Reed or Straw six or seven foot high, raise your Bed three, four or five foot high, and three or four foot over, make it of horse dung six, eight or ten days old, and tread it very hard down, the better to excite the heat, then level it on the top, and border it round with Boards, if you please; cover your Dung with very fine rich Mould, three or four inches thick, and when the Bed has past its extream Heat, which you may know by trying of it with your finger, then sow your Seeds in rills; arch your Bed over with hoops, and fasten them on the sides with bands of straw or hay twisted, and

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at the top to a long pole, which cover with Mattings or Hurdles of Straw, the better to preserve your Bed from cold or too much wet; if you have a Glafs frame there needs less of this trouble; in warm days an hour before Noon, and an hour after, let your Bed lie open to the Sun.

☞ Observe in warm Weather to water your Garden in the Evenings, in cold Weather in the Mornings; your Dung-water is made of sheeps, or any other Dung dissolved in warm water, and after it has stood twelve hours or longer, strain it by compression through a coarse cloth. To raise Seeds or Herbs, or Plants, that do not seed the same year, preserve them over the Winter for Seed next Summer, and always chuse those that grow at the top, or lie fairest to the Sun: Sow your seed at a dry time in the Spring; in *Autumn* three or four days after Rain; water all Seeds or Plants, as soon as they are sown or planted, and water them again three or four days after, if Rain do not fall before.

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